

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/888,421

Examiner

Hong Cho

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Art Unit

2662

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 4/18/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 2, 4-6 and 8 (renumbered 1-6).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 06/26/2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other attachement A.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Benjamin Urcia on 5/16/2005.

The listing of the claims has been replaced with the listing shown in the attachment A.

The examiner's amendment is made to clarify the status of claim 7 as shown on page 4 in the attachment.

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hong Cho whose telephone number is 571-272-3087. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7 am to 4 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou can be reached on 571-272-3088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

hc

Hong Cho
Patent Examiner
5/16/2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'HASSAN KIZOU', written over a printed name.

HASSAN KIZOU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

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Attachment A

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for managing a community Ethernet switch comprising:
 - at least one network interface circuit each coupled to an end user and an exchange through a first line so as to control a data packet transmission between each end user and said exchange for managing a transmission and a receiving of said data packet;
 - a second line coupled between said exchange and said Ethernet switch so that said exchange is ~~capable of monitoring and managing~~ arranged to monitor and manage said Ethernet switch and packet messages under monitor and management are sent to said Ethernet switch from said exchange; and
 - a simple network management protocol (SNMP) installed on said Ethernet switch for setting a management value of a management information base (MIB) so that said Ethernet switch is ~~capable of monitoring~~ arranged to monitor said at least one network interface circuit based on said management value; and
 - a detection loop on each network interface circuit arranged so that, based on said management value of said MIB, said Ethernet switch transmits enable or disable signals to each detection loop for activation, performs a loop detection on each network interface circuit, writes a test result into said MIB, and commands said SNMP to collect said result for transmitting to said exchange.
2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said Ethernet switch is ~~capable of writing~~ arranged to write a test result into said MIB, commanding said SNMP to collect said result for transmitting to said exchange for analysis and determination by network management personnel.

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3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein each network interface is a very high speed digital subscriber line (VDSL) interface circuit.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said second line is a fiber-optic line and a transmission thereof is performed on a cable modem for transmitting said management packet messages.

6. (Currently Amended) A community Ethernet switch comprising:

an Ethernet switching circuit for either receiving data packets from an exchange or sending said data packets to said exchange through a first line;

a network management control circuit for receiving network management packets from said exchange through a second line and based on said received network management packets for setting a management value of a management information base (MIB) of a simple network management protocol (SNMP) by said SNMP; and

a plurality of network interface circuits each coupled to an Ethernet NIC at an end user and said exchange;

wherein each network interface circuit transmits a management value of said MIB to said Ethernet switching circuit through a bus ~~so arranged such that~~, based on said management value, said Ethernet switching circuit ~~is capable of monitoring~~ monitors said network interface circuits, ~~writing~~ writes a test result into said MIB, and ~~commanding~~ commands said SNMP to collect said result for transmitting to said exchange for analysis and determination by network management personnel, and

wherein each network interface circuit comprises a detection loop coupled to said Ethernet switching circuit and arranged such that, based on said management value of said MIB, said Ethernet switching circuit transmits enable or disable signals to each detection loop for activation, performs a loop detection on each network interface circuit, writes a test result into said MIB, and commands said SNMP to collect said result for transmitting to said exchange.

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7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein each network interface circuit is a very high speed digital subscriber line (VDSL) interface circuit.

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